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CAMPBELL STEPHENSON LLP  
11401 CENTURY OAKS TERRACE  
BLDG. H, SUITE 250  
AUSTIN, TX 78758

EXAMINER
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DONAGHUE, LARRY D

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2154

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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Claims 1-24 are presented for examination.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1,3-11 and 13-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al. (6,000,000) in view of Brown et al. (2006/0112150).

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Hawkins et al. (USPN 6,000,000), hereafter referred to as Hawkins teach a system with means for:

- Coupling a handheld device to a server, the server having a first database and the handheld device having a second database, the handheld device having an application that allows a user to access the second database (figure 4 handheld computer file system and data bases 441-443; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).
- Determining whether the application needs to be updated (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45 such a need for reconcile the two calendar databases by coupling two computer system using communication link 140; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).
- Causing the server to provide to the handheld device an application update if the application needs to be updated (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).
- Causing the handheld device to record transactions performed on the second database by a user (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14 such as conduit library 421 may read the

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records from the handheld database one by one until an entire copy of the handheld database is created on the personal computer system 150).

Causing the handheld device to provide to the server transaction information, wherein the transaction information is related to the recorded transactions (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14 such as using SyncWriteRecord() function when new and modified records are copied to the handheld computer).

- Causing the server to extract data from the first database to be used to update the second database (figure 4; figure 6; col. 5, lines 14-36, such as the Sync Manager Library oversees the synchronization process and uses individual "Conduit" libraries to perform the synchronization of each database).
- Causing the server to provide to the handheld device at least a portion of the extracted data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Hawkins does not expressly recite updating the Metadata, Brown et al. teaches updating the metadata to correspond corresponding to the update ((para. 57-666).

Regarding claims 3 and 13, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11, respectively. They further teach means wherein coupling the handheld device to the server comprises coupling the handheld device to a companion device that can be coupled to the server (such as "the application Programming Interface (API) figure 4; figure 6; see col. 6, lines 5-27, and column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 4 and 14, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11. They further teach means wherein a synchronization engine is configured to cause the server to provide the handheld device at least one of the application update or the extracted data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine resides in the server (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45;

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column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 6 and 16, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine resides in a companion device that is coupled to the server and the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 7 and 17, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. He further teaches means wherein the synchronization engine resides in the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 8 and 20, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11. They further teach means wherein a synchronization manager is configured to cause the handheld device to provide to the server the transaction information (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 9 and 21, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 8 and 20, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager resides in the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 10 and 22, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 8 and 20, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager resides in a companion device that is coupled to the server and the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 18, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 14. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine also includes the means for causing the server to extract data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 19, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 14. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine also includes the means

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for causing the server to perform a transaction (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 23 and 24, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 20. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager also includes the means for causing the handheld device to record transactions (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Larry D. Donaghue whose telephone number is 571-272-3962. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached on 571-272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Larry D Donaghue  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2154

/Larry D Donaghue/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2154